

REMARKS

Applicants request reconsideration and allowance in view of the following remarks. Claims 62-79 are pending, with claims 62 and 71 being independent. Claims 1-9, 13-19, 26-38, 58, and 59 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. No new matter has been introduced.

Allowable Subject Matter

Initially, Applicants thank Examiner Nguyen for acknowledging that claims 62-79 are allowed.

Claim Objections

In the Advisory Action mailed May 28, 2008, claims 26, 62, and 71 were objected to because of minor informalities. Applicants have cancelled claim 26, thereby rendering the objection to claim 26 moot. Applicants have amended claims 62 and 71 as kindly suggested by Examiner Nguyen. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the amendments to claims 62 and 71 address all of the issues raised in the Advisory Action and, thus, respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to claims 62 and 71.

Selgas in view of Slemmer Rejections

In the Advisory Action mailed May 28, 2008, claims 1-9, 13-19, 26-38, 58, and 59 were rejected as being unpatentable over Selgas (U.S. Patent Number 6,571,290) in view of Slemmer (U.S. Publication Number 2002/0069284). Applicants traverse these rejections, and yet to expedite prosecution, have cancelled claims 1-9, 13-19, 26-38, 58, and 59, thereby rendering these rejections moot.

Conclusion

It is believed that all of the pending issues have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims)

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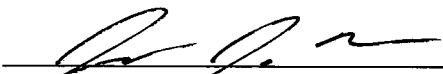
that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this reply should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this reply, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance. Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: _____

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